THE NEPHEW OF A PROPHET

BY HOWARD FIELDING.

Coppright, 1800, by C. W. Hooke.

floor, and Juck yelled, "Come in!" The door slowly opened, and a round, red face was cautiously thrust in. It will not deserve to get his money back.

and I knew why, for my tong as I had to analous to get clear and why I feel known Jack his office door laid stood the shame of this suit just now? firmly between houself and his cred-



THIS IS POR YOU." BEJOINED THE MAN. flurs. Deplatess the man with the its benefed lawyers how sorry he was, round free had called often and had stee, and how cheumstances had concarned to expect nothing.

"Are you Mr. Willis?" said he.

"Yes," replied Inch. "Mr. Johnimmisonwillis" continued the visitor, using the name in the form dictated, "for the remainder of the aftof a single projectills.

"I grees so," said Jack. man, passing a folded paper to my exalt friend and immediately escaping from

the room. Jack opened the document and gave

gleace of sympathy. "This cuts me is managing my little deal for me-will deep. I'm such for the money that I be here presently with the final pay owe Phil Bailey. He's heard that I am ment of about \$750 in cash. I'll send to collect his due. I wish he had waits mee, and meanwhile I'll have a boy ed and given me a chance to prove my carry this note over to Archibald, willingness to pay my debts. The man Blake & Co." was my classmate at college, Billy. "But suppose Reeves doesn't come?" and has known me ever since I was a said I. boy."

wall and sat there staring at the legal office who had come to borrow a drink-

that this is the last debt I have in the in the hall. The glass was always kep world? Ten days ago their name was in a drawer of the typewriter, an legion. I had not been out of debt the man had borrowed it before, resince the first day of July, 1883.

more the first day of July, 1883. . Jack informed me after he had gone. "On that fatal day and date," he . The note to the lawyers was disther had left to carry me through.

and with it a lecture on debt. I wish the \$750. beard and a voice like the bass of a Just like ber. church organ. I had always reverence I was about to take my departure ed and feared blin. I remember how when a very deletal and formal rap in summer evenings when I was a was beard, and presently there entered lieved that he could read mortal des- drama.

"Well, as I was saying. Uncle Frank said be, handing it to Jack. lead me the money, and he told me. My friend glanged at his commit that he regretted doing it on my see tion, and I could see that there dawn count. If you get into debt at this ed upon him for the first time a percepperiod of your life, said he, you will tion that it was somewhat effusive to never get out.' I thought of the stars and trembled. Yet I had made no plans for the payment of this manny; and it seemed that they could not go wrotist.

"Anyway. I had to have it. Timi's And if Uncle Frank and been as wise as he was reputed to be or one ten-thousandth part us wise as been it men exact bloow set bedock of scaling the necessity, he would not have miles the figure and of one by any week glongs ampheer. If he had said, 'All eight my been here's the meney and well-errer I know you'll give it back to horn dimedi, sure.

"instead he fold me that I'd never got cut of data, and no convinced That menuer of his which tion he asked for the bread at the to. SHERE EXTRUSE A LOSG, THIS LAWVEST hio would make a silve get right up: with of the place and walk ever to him, be addressed to a law firm. It confalses by nortized me. I have never trusted beautifully with the type-well-best alde to get over it, and even new, ten receipt exhibited by the solemn Billie, with only this debt in the world clerk. on i the mency ready to papit, I must . Juck meanwhile had sent to the bank help feeling as if semething would hap for the balance above Recree' \$750. quen. Uncle Frank's prophecy has held and so he was able to pay in cash as he good for 15 years, and why not for lad (promised. I rejoiced with him.

due respect to your uncle's memory ed to her, and she knew that the man what you have told me proves that he she loved was actting himself square was a good deal of a chump. Any one with the world. who loads up a young man just start. The solemn cierk counted the money. "Did i ing in life with that sort of sloomy rot banded overathe receipt and departed. "Yes. is a good kind of person to avoid and Then we thook hands all around, and Dealer.

Some one kneeked at Jack Willis' forget. You're ahead of the game now, payhow, so that proves that he didn't

know what he was talking about. He

"Ills estate," said Jack, "got that Igolard as if it might be a dummy on money last Tuesday. But, as you say, the end of a stick. A neck and body the a good thing to forget. As to this followed it, however, considerably to chira of Balley's, I'll write the lawyer my relief, for I distilte the uncanny. . . . better. But as to this matter of debt. The face exhibited signs of surprise, Dilly, I suppose you know why I am

> "I know the reason," said I, "and it is the most beautiful charming and altenether desirable reason that ever animated may one. Has the day been

> "I swore that I wouldn't marry (II) I had paid every debt," said he, "and that's what inspired me to make the cal that cleared use. Now I can pay a St 200 that I owe Balley as a resulf f that confounded meanging scheme 2000 in the bank with which to begin housekeeping. And now if you'll let me get to the typewriting machine I'll brook out the letter to these lawyers. Arenibald, Blake & Co."

> "Distate it to me," said 1, wheeling around in my clair. "I can themp a typewriter to bent the band."

So Juck dierated a four and somewhat abound letter, telling these granspired and low tfinally it was with great relief that he found himself ablato meet this claim in full and at once.

"I shall be detained in my office." be ornoon, and if you will send a represoutablye of your firm to me with a re-"Then this is for you," rejoined the cript in full I will pay the amount in

> "Why not send them a check?" I nsked.

"Well, theefact is," he replied, "that It a slugle glance. Surely I saw tenrs I have not the amount in one bank, and I don't want to send two checks. "That's right," said he, reading my Reeves-you know he's the fellow who on my feet again, and he's in a hurry to the Ann Street bank for the bal-

"Oh, there's no chance of that!" he "It is a little rough, Jack, I'll admit," replied. "Here he is now, I guess."

There was a knock, but the caller He tilted his chair back against the preved to be a man from the adjoining ing glass with which to refresh him-"Billy," said he at last, "do you know self from the water cooling apporatus

continued, with considerable emotion, patched, and then Jack and I sat and both and was able by description to "Why, you must have been able to see for yourself if you are any judge of and asked him for \$100. I had just soxious about Reeves. If anything come out of college without a penny- went wrong with him, Uncle Frack's exactly even on the money that my fa- prophecy might yet be fulfilled. But Reeves was all right. He came in "Uncle Frank gave me the money about a quarter of an hour and paid

you had seen him. It would help you. Then Jack's sweetheart dropped in. to understand what I am going to tell He had known that she was coming. you. Uncle Frank was positively the but had not been sure of the hour. most impressive looking man ever ere. That was why he had written that he ated. He looked like one of the major would be detained in his office. Such a prophets. You know there is a New prospect would detain me nine consec-England type which is close to that utive years if necessary in any place which printers use to portray the som- that might be appointed; not that I her but magnificent teaders of ancient covet Jack's sweetheart, but I wish Israel. Uncle Frank bad a patriarchal there was another girl in the world

bey he used to talk to me of the stars, a long, this lawyor's clerk, who looked ealling them all by name, and I has as if he had just stepped out of a melo-

"This letter is from you. I believe?"



CLERK.

and I could see a light in Millie Blair's

"Nonsense, Jack?" said I. "With all eyes. The situation had been explain-

after that I was again about to de-

Again there was a rap on the door. This time a jolly looking youth, with a little derby hat on one side of his head, answered the call, "Come in!"

"You Mr. Willis?" said he, addressing Jack. My friend hodded.

"Then Mr. Archibald says it's no a ther from your office over to his than from his office over to yours. You better come over there and pay the

THORREST "Why, I just gave it to his clerk!" nied Jack.

"Not!" said the boy. "There ain't here,"

An invisible hand poured a cup of dd water down my spine. "He presented my letter," said Jack.

and this receipt." "We don't give receipts on old sec-cudland law blinks," said the boy. This is the way we do it."

And he exhibited a sample receipt with the firm's name on the top of it. "Wait here!" eried Jack to us. "Wait here for me!"

He selzed his but and dashed away. As he went by Millie he bissed her-on the end of the nose, I think. It was linsty work, but carried a world of

anything but genuine. But we may be bled out he dies.-Gerald Stanley Les able to help Jack out. Just wait here in Atlantic. a minute." I made my best speed to a telephone

of his that I went into and then baye in the lower hall and called up police endquarters, receiving a premise that man would be sent down at once. He and Inck prrived at the same mament.

"There's no doubt about this thing." said Jack. "The man to whom I puid the money has no connection with Archibald. I'm swindled, and, Billy. old boy, I'm still in debt. What do you think of my Uncle Frank new?"

He dropped luto a chair and stared pitifully at Millie. The detective from hendquarters was

very smooth and able person. It took film exactly 28 minutes to unravel this terrible tangle of crime.

Without attempting to make a mystery of it for the reader I will state the method by which my friend had been robbed. Just behind bim, as he sat at als deak, was a door communicating with the next office, but always locked, of course. That office was tenanted by a couple of men whose records. when investigated, proved to be nearly as bad as possible. Indeed, our



"WAIT HERE FOR ME!"

friend from headquarters knew them wish I had known it." the clerk's part as one of their "pals."

It was evident that Jack's conversation with me had been overheard and that when he began to dictate his let- notice it in this case. In fact, I didn't ter to the lawyers one of the swindlers saw a chance to do business. Listening at the door, he had taken down Jack's letter in shorthand. Then he that took my eye. Now you go to work had come in, ostensibly for the drinking giasa, but really to steal some of If you want to learn the business watch Jack's paper out of the typewriter ta me, not the other fellow's face."-Chible. This he had accomplished right under our noses. I remembered after ward what a bother be had made about finding the glass.

Then he had written the letter on his own typewriting machine, had concoeted the receipt and had sent in his "pal," who happened to be within call. to do the job. In showing the letter to Jack be had exhibited only the first page, thus getting around the difficulty

of the signature. All this was verified by the confession of one of the criminals who was captured within the week by the prompt work of the police. Mone of Jack's money, however, could be re-

covered. Jack paid Balley's claim, but in order to do so he had to borrow \$500 of me. I leaned it on the condition that the debt should not keep Jack from the altar of matrimony.

But I hever expect to get the money. I have now too much confidence in the prophetic power of Uncle Frank Wills to entertala any such hope.

Colnettenees.

Charles Dickens was dogged through out his life by the most perplexing coincidences, and his death completed one of the most remarkable of them all. On the 5th day of June, 1865, he exemped death by a railrand accident as by a infracte, and in commenting on fils escape by wrote:

"I can never be much nearer parting company with my readers to over than I was then until there shall be written against my life the two words-the

These two words were written by death five years later on the same day of the same month.-San Francisco

He Stupped.

"I tell you the drink habit, the opium habit and the eighrette habit can all be stopped. It's nonsense to say they can't. Look at that boy who smoked \$5 worth of eightettes every week."

"Did he stop?" "Yes. He's dead."-Cleveland Clain The Wretched Newspaper Man.

In every city of the land the newspaper man is an outcast. He knows more people to be a stranger to than any other being in the world. I'e has no holidays. His Christmas is the record of other men's joys. His Thanksgiving is a restaurant. Even the Fourth of July and Sunday, servants of the commonest man, refuse him their cheer. The Fourth of July is the day he must be in every place at once, because everything is happening, and Funday is the day he must make things to, because nothing is happening.

His labors are our pleasures. rets his vacation by doing another man's work and earns his living by watching other people live. The very days and the nights turn their natural backs upon him. The lamp is his sun by night, and the curtain is his night by day, and he eats his supper in the morning. His business is the reflection of life. He is the spirit behind the mirror. What is left to us is right to him, and right is left. Semetimes

right side up is upskie down. The world is all awry to the newspaper man. It whirls across the hours in column, now in one edition and now in another, but it heeds him never show prisses before his face-a shut out, unsharing face. He lives as the "Pin afraid Jack has been swindled." Years go on a notebook under the sold 1. "That boy is too original to be stars, and when the natebook is serfi-

The Emergency Clerk.

"I ran across a clerk here who is worth his weight in gold, or, at least, n gold bricks," said a guest at one of the hotels. "If I was in business in New Orleans, I would got that man if had to chloroform and abduet him. The way I discovered his merits was this: I was standing in a store down the street, walting for my wife to deelde what she didn't want, when a tallor made girl walked up and asked to see some golf clubs. The young man behind the counter showed her several, and in a few moments she found one that suited her and went away with it under her arm.

"'Are there many players in New Orleans? I asked after she had gone. "'Oh, yes; quite a number!' replied the clerk affably.

"'Have you golf links here?' I coninued, getting interested.

"A look of real pain crossed the oung man's face. 'I am secry,' he aid, 'very sorry, but the fact is we old our last golf links this morning. However, we have ordered a new stock,' he added, brightening up, 'and they will be here in a few days. Which did you wigh, the plain or the-er-fan-

"A clerk like that is beyond price, sir, perfectly invaluable. Ten years hence I expect to find him a merchant prince." - New Orleans, Times-Demoernt.

Two Views of the Same Man.

"Why did you take that man's case?" he fresh graduate of the law school asked after his father, the old attorney, had bowed a client out of the of-"There is no possibility that you can win it for him. One glance at his face shows that he is the briber and all around rascal he is accused of be-

ing. "Is that so?" the old man replied. "I'm sorry to hear it-really sorry. I

character at all."

"I am usually pretty good at such things, but I must confess that I didn't see his face at all."

"Didn't see his face!"

"No. He had a wallet in his hand and copy off that brief, and after this cago Times-Herald.

An Unwelcome Visitor.

While camped in the Wallapal mountains recently there came to my camp from off the Santa Fe Pacific an English overland tourist, and, after passing the usual salutations and greetings, the stranger proposed to join the desert express train of burros and try his luck prospecting. The first camp was made at Maggle Springs. where stood an old miner's cabin. In the morning he proposed to help cook breakfast and built a rousing fire in the old fireplace of the cabin and started to fry the bncon. All nt once a startled expression came from the embryo cook, and, turning quickly, I discovered a large king sanke starting in the frying pan. The chimney getting het had dislodged his anakeship, and down he came into the hot grease,-Yuma (A. T.) Sun.

A Remarkable Building.

The tabernacie at Salt Lake City is, n respect to its acoustic properties, the most remarkable place of worship in the world. It is constructed to hold 25,000 people, yet it is possible for a person standing at one end to distinctly hear the sound of a pin dropped into g hat at the other, a test of its curious power to convey sound which is offered to every stranger who is shown over the building.

A Perfect Grotteman, "So you proposed to Miss De Vere!" exclaimed Miss Cayenna

"Yes," answered Willie Washington, 'yesterday evening." "What did she say?"

"I don't remember. I heard her tell a friend she was going to see how many proposals she could get this season, and I thought it would only be polite of me to help out."-Washington Star.

The longest canal in the world is the Erie, in New York, extending from Albany to Buffalo, a distance of 381 miles. The cost of construction was \$52,540,-800.

Boutelle and Blatne. They used to tell a good story about Boutelle in connection with the campaign of 1884. He idelized Blaine, and for years there was bad blood between him and Reed, because Reed acted as though he thought himself as great as,

or greater than, the plumed knight The story is that Boutelle accompanied Binine on his western tour in 1884. When the special pulled out of New York, Boutelle rushed over to Plaine's sent, his face white with anger and his voice vibran, with passion. Rolding in his trembling hands a copy of the New York Tribune, he pointed to an article and exclaimed, "Was there ever such fatuous blundering as

that? For half an hour he commented on the article to the half score persons who had gathered round. The Tribune was Blaine's chief organ, as every one knew, but the flery Yankee of French extraction continued to pour hot shot into it. Finally Blaine said, "Charley, do you know who wrote that and procured its insettion in The Tribune? "No," was the answer, "but I take it that it was Whitelaw Reid or some

other infernal fool." "You are wrong, Charley," replied Blaine. "I wrote it and had The Tribnne print it."-Washington Cor. Louisviile Courier-Journal.

A Unrd Unin.

"It rains a great deal in the Puget sound country," says a man from that part of the Union, "and I heard a funny incident not long ago about it. Some chap had come from the Mississippl valley to take up his residence at Whatcom, on Bellingham bay, where there are very high tides. When the bont handed him at the end of the long pler extending over the tide flats, the water was lew, and the new man did but". not notice anything but a wide stretch of sand between the best and the town.

"It was in the evening, about dark, and was raining, and he went to the hotel on the front street and staid there, going to bed without having gone out for a welk. The next morning when he got up he looked out, and the tide was in, the water coming up close to the hotel. He gazed at the wide- again and see if I can't remember more prend waters for an Instant, and, throwing up his hands in astouishnent, he exclaimed, 'Gee while, but it must have rained hard last night?"

"Then he hurrled down stairs to the office to find out if there was any danger from the flood, and the clerk smiled four or five times and gave him some guessed something would happen. She much needed information."-Washington Star.

Yes-What? year's graduate, a dutiful son and an industrious student, yet withal a some- | had seen." what liberal youth. At the beginning of his concluding year his father, who was just setting out for Europe, said to him:

"Now, Harry, you get your degree, and I'll send for you to come over and travel all summer."

Harry was delighted. "Father," said he, "I will." He studied faithfully all sure. I shouldn't have fold her mythe college year and in June went self." through with flying colors. Then he cabled his father:

But the father, alas, had forgotten his impulsive offer. He mused over and, do you know, I doubt if she really the message, wondered and then cabled back:

'Yes-what?" The son was in turn perplexed, but,

being a well trained lad, he did not remain long in the dark and, fired by duteons zeal, cabled back: "Yes, sir."

Letters of explanation followed, and he won the "grand tour." - Atlanta Journal.

Chinese Fond of Sanerkraut. With the advent of so many Chinese restaurants in different parts of the city it is confidently, declared that "chop suey" and other well known Chinese delicacies are consumed more by Americans than by Chinamen. A Harlem Chinaman who had been down to Mott street for a social time was on a Third avenue "L" car and got into

conversation with a neighbor. "I suppose you like chop suey, ch, John?" asked the casual acquaintance. "No," was the other's answer, with a positive shake of the head. "Me no likee chop sucy. Me cat spareribs and

sanerkraut." And in further conversation it was revenied that this Chinaman, like many of his fellow countrymen in New York. who had, like himself, been here 14 years or so, hardly tasted traditional Chinese dishes. One of the first directions in which a Chinaman becomes Americanized is in his liking for American food, cooked in the American way. -New York Letter in Pittsburg Dis. phia North American.

Concise and Expileit.

Many stories, mostly fabrications, have been told about long, diffuse telegraphic messages sent by women, as if the feminine mind were incomble of expressing itself concisely.

How false and slanderous such au turpression is is well shown by an ineldent reported by a contemporary. A gentleman went to Paris on business. As he went away he said something to his wife about buying her a new dress. Just before starting homeward be telegraphed to his wife, "Which shall I bring you, a diamond ring or a sitk

The reply was concise and explicitone word, "Both."

How It Was.

Jack-I hear you lost a lot of money on Wall street while you were drunk. Tom-I wasn't drunk, but the stocks I hought took a drop too much.-Boston Journal.

It is an open question as to whether indecision or rashness has assisted in to make the greater number of mistakes.

THE BOY'S REVENGE

WAS ONE THAT WAS REALLY A DLOW TO THE VICTIM.

And Showed, Moreover, That the Child, Young Though Pe Was, Was Well Versed in the Ways of the Average Young Woman,

"Isn't Mand rather inclined to be envious?" queried the girl in the pink wnist.

"She is, dear, and she rather encourages the trait," replied the girl with the hand eyes. "The men consider it so feminine, you know."

"At any rate the man who finally marries her will not inspire envy," retorted the girl in the pink waist. "I visited Mand for a few days last

"Then I devoutly hope you are foud of children, even when their foud parnts are not present. That's all. That atte nephew of hers would -

"Tax the patience of a girl who canted to mavry a widower? I know dear. Well, I thought I was fond of hildren when I went to Mand's, but"-"You had your doubts when you left, eh? Well, I'm cure I don't blame you.

"You would nity me it you know all, I took my trank with me when I went, although my stay was to be so short,

because I"_ "Pecause you wanted Mand to see eith her own eyes the foreign labels on H? I see. Well, Mand is rather a skeptical person, save on the subject of the merits of that awful child. But

"She makes up for all her shepticism by her belief in him, dehr. Yes, I had told her all about my trip alwoad,

"I don't doubt it, dear, I never did. Per-perhaps you even total has twice. Dear mel tr I did not nettally know that you were absent only six months, I could hardly believe that so much could have happened in so short a

"I believe it was rather a remarkable trip, dear. I shall flok over my diary

"Don't pet yourself out, dear; please don't," said the girl with the bazel eyes. "I-er-you were spenking of

Mand, you know." "So I was. Well, she was so nice about that trunk that I might have she even replied amiably when I mentioned the foreign labels. Of course I am very careful not to put on the alrs of a traveled person, but I wanted A good story is going the rounds at her to see thorn, so that in future she Harvard college concerning a last would not seem quite so surprised when I mentioned a fresh place that I

"Oh! And did you enjoy your visit?" ... "I enjoyed part of it. Mr. Brownsmith talked to me a great deal. To be sure, it was usually about Mand, but then he could just as well have

talked to her if he had wanted, so"-"You didn't tell Mand what he said, eh? Well, that was quite natural, I'm

"It was. The day before I went home he sent up to ask if he might see me just for a mement. Mand was dressing to go for a walk with him,

liked it." "H-m! Perhaps not. However, she took her displeasure out on you, not

him, I'm sure." "She did. I was lying down with a headache, but that horrid little nephew had a basin of soapsuds and a pipe and was blowing bubbles and making the room hideous, so I got up and went down stairs to see Mr. Brownsmith."

"And what did he"-"He wanted to ask me what, in my opinion, Maud had really meant when she said she admired tall, fair men! I-I wish now that I had remained up stairs."

"Why? Was Maud"-"Augry? She was-so angry that she

ven loaned me her best necktie and called me darling, I might have known something would happen after that, and it did!" "She told Mr. Brownsmith things

"Didn't matter? Of course not. He is so much in love with her that he only half hears what she says. No, it was much worse than that."

about you? Oh, well, that really"-

"You might tell me, since I can't guess, and"-"Oh, nothing, only when I came up stairs to send her down that miserable little nephew had taken his scapsuds and washed every one of those lovely foreign labels off my tenent! And, Ef-

Those Kids.



"Now, Johnnie, tell 'em itow for spell yer name same as I told yer." Johnnie-F-o-o-L Johnnie-New York Journal

Comforting Himself, "What is wealth?" asked the worried man.

"Wealth." answered the complacent philosopher, "is what makes at man feel guilty because he is squandering the interest on a whole tot of money every time he breaks a \$10 but."-Washington Star.

fie, I only hope Mand bad nothing to do with that. That's all!"-Philadel-